- Underwater Debris Poses Summer Peril
- No Tobacco Policy Goes into Effect
- Parking Regulations in Effect May 15—September 15
- Voter and Election Information



Summer 2013

# Still Feeling the Effects of Hurricane Sandy



## Strewn by Sandy, Underwater Debris Poses Summer Peril

With Summer fast approaching and fishing, crabbing and watersports just around the corner, boaters should be cautious when taking to the waterways.

During the height of Hurricane Sandy, bayside waters rose as much as four feet in Little Assawoman Bay. The rising waters caused the floatation of boardwalks, ground level decks and an array of backyard items to float away in some cases.

Everyone is cautioned to be aware of floating and underwater debris when taking their boats out into the bay. If you are aware of any such debris in Fenwick Island you are encouraged to notify Town Hall.

In an attempt to prevent such dangers in the future, the Town has approved a new amendment that requires the anchoring of all outside storage tanks such as fuel and propane tanks. The Town presented an amendment at the March Town Council meeting to further require the anchoring of all boardwalks, ground level decks and other outdoor structures. The deadline for compliance of each is June 14, 2014.

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## **Tobacco Free Beaches and Parks**

Whether you are a visiting vacationer or full time resident, we want the time you spend here to be picture perfect. We have introduced a no-smoking ordinance that applies to all of our beaches and town parks.

By Ordinance, The Town of Fenwick Island does not allow the burning of a cigarette, cigar, pipe or other matter or substance that contains tobacco on its beach or in its parks. Enforcement activities began on March 1, 2013. There is a fine of \$100 for each instance.

If you do smoke, please properly dispose of your tobacco product in the cigarette receptacles that are provided at the dune crossings. Please do not throw cigarette butts on the ground or in the dunes. Thank you in advance for complying with the ordinance.



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## A Message from Mayor Serio

Spring is in the air. But the weather this April certainly has not been very spring-like. By the time you receive this newsletter, I hope Spring has definitely sprung. This time of the year brings many of our neighbors back to Fenwick Island to ready their properties for the coming Summer Season. Many of our bayside neighbors are still dealing with repairs from Sandy. Work will be going on for a time yet.

The Town of Fenwick Island is also busy getting ready for the Summer season. Public Works have begun their Spring work, Lifeguards will soon be hired, the Police are preparing and training for the summer crowd and our

Admin Staff are getting the parking passes and summer information ready. We have been working diligently on the Cannon Street Park which will be a point for Kayaks to be launched, and from here will explore our inland bays and their maps for assistance in the trips. Our intention is to have a "natural park" with a serene setting. We will be completing a majority of the landscaping by Memorial Day Weekend. We will also be planting our Rain Garden which will be used as an example for other areas as to why we have them and how they are built whether big or small. Of course

weather will determine when all is completed. The handicap Kayak Launch will be completed as soon as possible. Sandy created additional repairs in our area and that has delayed the work on the launch. Please stop by and watch our progress. Once this is completed it will be a park

Hope everyone had a good Winter and I am looking forward to your return to Fenwick Island.

our Town will be proud of.



**Parking Passes** must be used on all streets May 15 to September 15. Passes are available at the Public Safety Building seven days a week from 9AM-4:30 PM.

**PARKING** 

REGULATIONS

IN EFFECT

No town business is conducted on weekends or holidays. The sale of a parking pass does not guarantee a parking space. Please note that if you do receive a parking ticket we cannot take it back. You may pay the fine or appeal it to the JP Court. They will schedule a hearing on the matter.

## Town Manager Merritt Burke IV

Thank you for taking the time to peruse the latest edition of the FIN newsletter. As many of you know, Fenwick is buzzing with activity. To start, DelDOT is finishing the installation of ADA landing areas throughout Town. Required under Title II, the landing areas will help everyone cross Route 1 more safely. The project should be wrapped up by Memorial Day weekend. From Town Hall, management and staff are working on several projects. First, Cannon Street Park will be under construction with a new fence, parking area, installation of new signage, and the addition of picnic benches for the public to enjoy the canal. The kayak facility bid was rejected due to supply and demand issues, therefore we are casting a wider net to

lower the estimated cost. I would anticipate the new dock to be ready for paddlers by the end of the summer, if not sooner. Secondly, staff are preparing for FY2014 budget meetings. Thus far it appears that the budget is balanced as we head into the new fiscal year. New revenue sources such as lifeguard ads, beach services and beach concessions helped defray rising energy prices, insurance premiums and maintenance repairs. Third, with the approval of \$10,000 from the American Lung Association, the Town purchased and installed various items connected to the education and enforcement of the no smoking ordinance. To review, smoking is prohibited on the beach and within Town parks. Speaking of the beach, you will

see beach rentals within Fenwick Island and food and beverage service within the State Line Beach.

I would like to remind all residents that Hurricane season is upon us. Please prepare accordingly, and contact Town Hall if you have questions. If everyone recalls, we barely escaped one of the deadliest storms in history, so take time now to review hurricane and evacuation plans. For more information, visit any State or local website, as all three levels of government have a variety of resources on safety and preparedness.

Lastly, I would to thank the employees for performing the daily tasks that make this coastal hamlet a wonderful place to live and work.

## Chief of Police Boyden

We can finely welcome Spring to our area. Over the past winter the officers of your Police Department had to deal with a wide range of problem weather. We have done our best to safe guard your property, if you find and problems with your property please call report them.

Super Storm Sandy hit us hard but through this event we maintained 24/7 protection and responded to the needs of residence as well as surrounding areas.

One of our own Officer Jennifer Kerin was awarded the Joshua Freeman Valor

Award for her brave and outstanding performance during Super Storm Sandy. We are all proud and fortunate to have Officer Kerin as a member of the police department.

We are back on the NIXLE alert system (www.nixle.com). This service will assist us and you with important alerts and it costs nothing to the tax payer.

Remember that parking enforcement goes into effect May 15. Enjoy the Spring weather.



PFC Jennifer Kerin 2013 Overall Valor Award Winner

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### **Charter and Ordinance Committee**

The Charter & Ordinance Committee recently drafted several ordinances that property owners should be aware of. Due to the amount of floating debris, ground level boardwalks, and trash bins that occurred during Superstorm Sandy, Council recently approved an ordinance requiring property owners to anchor such structures. Also, to eliminate possible fire hazards from unanchored fuel and propane tanks, these items also need to be anchored. Please

contact Town Hall for further information.

Also, per the recommendations of the Town's Environmental Committee and Council, C&O drafted a non smoking ordinance for our parks and beach. This ordinance was approved and the Town now joins a few other local communities that ban smoking on our beaches.

A reminder to those who have experienced water intrusion in any electrical boxes in walls or under their house. You should consider having your wire connections checked by a licensed electrician for corrosion that could cause a short circuit or create resistance that could cause overheating and a potential fire. The corrosion can take many weeks to happen and is sometimes forgotten in the rush to dry out and repair damage.

### **Environmental Committee**

The Environmental Committee, with the assistance of the Charter and Ordinance Committee and the support of the Town Council, was able to facilitate an ordinance prohibiting smoking on the beach and in the Town's parks. We were fortunate to secure a grant from the American Lung Association to pay for signage, cigarette butt receptacles and educational materials. The Committee wishes to thank all those who were instrumental in helping achieve this goal.

In addition, the committee is working closely with the ad hoc Technology

Committee to increase ways of using current technological advances to reduce the Town's carbon footprint.

Sadly, the Town has lost a prominent environmental activist with the passing of Harry Haon. Among his many contributions to Fenwick Island, he was also active in the Center for Inland Bays and was instrumental in the formation of the Inland Bays Foundation and served as the Vice President. He will be greatly missed.



Photo by Mike McDonnell

Annual Town Bonfire Friday, July 5, 2013 Dagsboro Street Beach

## Fenwick Island Beach Patrol

Captain Tim Ferry and the FIBP are looking forward to another excellent beach season. It may be hard to believe right now, but in just a few short months, summer will be here. Because many of our guards from last year are returning, we anticipate having another excellent and experienced staff.

We will commence duty on Saturday, May 25, 2013, with coverage through Memorial Day weekend. Thereafter, the beach patrol will be on duty for the weekend of June 1st and 2nd with full time coverage beginning on June 8th and extending through Labor Day.

Weekend coverage will resume the following two weekends, September 7th -8th and 14th - 15th.

The FIBP will be assisting with the Town Bonfire again this year. Fundraiser T-Shirts, silent auction and a 50/50 drawing will be available as well as games and music for both kids and adults so keep the date of July 5th open! T-shirts will be available for purchase beginning in May. Proceeds will help offset the cost for the USLA National Lifeguard Championships that will be held in Manhattan Beach, CA.



The Town of Fenwick Island

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#### Fenwick Island Town Council

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#### **Merritt Burke IV**

Town Manager townmgr@fenwickisland.org

# Town Hall Phone Numbers

Phone:302.539.3011 Fax:302.539.1305

#### Police Department Phone #

Phone: 302.539.2000 Officer on Duty 302.542.8793

Emergency: 911

The Town welcomes Steen's Beach Service for the summer 2013 season! Ron and Paige Steen will report to duty over Memorial Day weekend. Feel free to stop by, rent a chair and or umbrella and enjoy the beach.

### An Appreciation

The Town of Fenwick Island notes with sadness the passing of two of its most dedicated citizens, Mary Pat Kyle and Harry Haon. Both Mrs. Kyle and Mr. Haon served on Town Council and were instrumental in our town achieving its elevated status as a family-friendly place to live and to visit. Their dedicated service to the environment is reflected in our clean beaches and green space. Mr. Haon was a force behind the Town's Comprehensive Land Use Plan and Mrs. Kyle was the unofficial historian for Fenwick Island. The Town's first Historic and Cultural Preservation Group and Old Fenwick Island Days project benefitted from their expertise and experience in town matters and history. The Town extends its sympathy to the Kyle and Haon families.

## Residential Trash

## Collection Schedule 2013

Monday & Thursday Pick-up

May 2 —September 30

Monday only Pick-up

October -April

### Heavy Trash & Appliance Pick-up

May 28, 29, 30 September 9, 10, 11

### <u>Please Remember—</u>

do not place trash or recycle containers out earlier than 24 hrs in advance and remember to put them away promptly within 12 hours after pick-up.

### Curbside Recycle Schedule

- May—September pickup every Friday
- October through April pick-ups are every other Friday



The FI Lions Club aluminum can recycle bins remain at both the beach ends and behind town hall. Please continue to support their cause.

MPORTANT REMINDER regarding trash, recycling and yard waste -- Please do not comingle trash with your curbside recycling materials. Please do not place yard waste in your trash or curbside recycling. Doing so may result in your container being refused by the vendor.

## **Voter Registration Deadline Nears**

All those wishing to vote in the annual election must be registered with the Town no later than June 30. A voter qualifications guide and application form is available at Town Hall or on line at

www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov/

2013 Junior Lifeguard Program

Session #1 June 25-27 Session #2 July 2-4
Session #3 July 9-11 Session #4 July 16-18
Session #5 July 23- 25 Session #6 July 30—Aug 1

All sessions run from 10:00am — 12:00pm. Advanced Program begins July 3. Please call town hall for more information or download an application www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov

Limit 15 children per session.

#### **Town Election 2013**

The filing deadline to run for a seat on Town Council is 9:00 AM on Tuesday. June 18, 2013. Four council terms expire this year. You must be registered to vote for at least one year prior to the election for which you seek to be nominated. Other candidate qualifications include: a natural person who is a citizen of the United States; age 21 on or before the date of the election; and either a bona fide resident of the Town or a property owner in the Town; you may not have been convicted of a felony. Contact Town Clerk, Agnes DiPietrantonio, to obtain a filing package. Election Day in Fenwick Island is scheduled for Saturday, August 3 from 1 PM-5PM